

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUAYAQ 00393 061802Z

45

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 SP-02 NSCE-00 L-02

EB-07 COA-01 SCA-01 SCSE-00 H-02 INR-07 DLOS-05

PRS-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PA-02 USIE-00

DODE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 JUSE-00 (ISO) W

----- 056921

O 061750Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3766

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS GUAYAQUIL 393

E.O.: 11652: N/A ARA/EP PASS TO FELANDO IN SAN DIEGO

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, PLOS, EC, US

SUBJ: SEIZED U.S. VESSELS: INCIDENT ON NEPTUNE

1. INCIDENT ABOARD NEPTUNE IN LA LIBERTAD EARLY MARCH 6 HAS
RESULTED IN ENTIRE CREW, WITH EXCEPTION OF TWO WHO WERE ASHORE,
BEING FORCEFULLY ARRESTED BY ECUADOREAN NAVY AND TAKEN TO NAVAL BASE.

2. ACCORDING SALINAS NAVAL COMMANDER GALARRA, AT EARLY MORNING
CHANGE OF GUARD TWO CREWMEN WERE DRUNK AND ATTACKED GUARDS, WHO
FIRED INTO THE AIR. UP TO EIGHT CREWMEN BECAME INVOLVED IN
SCUFFLE. GUARDS WERE DISARMED AND FORCED TO GO ASHORE.
CREWMEN REFUSED TO ALLOW GUARDS TO RETURN TO BOAT AT ABOUT 10 AM.

3. EMBASSY AND CONGEN OFFICERS ATTEMPTED TO BOARD BOAT ABOUT
10:15 BUT WERE REJECTED BY CREW. AT ABOUT 11:30, TWO ECUADOREAN
NAVY OFFICERS AND EIGHT SEAMEN FORCIBLY BOARDED NEPTUNE. DAO
SGT. LUIS ROSARIO, WHO BY THEN WAS ABOARD, REPORTS THERE WAS
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AND SOME HEADS WERE KNOCKED. SHOTS WERE
FIRED INDISCRIMINATELY FROM BELOW DECKS, APPARENTLY BY NEPTUNE
CREWMEMBER. ROSARIO REPORTS HE SAW NO REPEAT NO SHOTS FIRED BY
ECUADOREANS. ALL CREWMEMBERS WERE WALKING WHEN THEY CAME ASHORE
AND NO SERIOUS INJURIES WERE OBSERVED BY U.S. PERSONNEL PRESENT.

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4. CONGEN DEWITT DEPARTED FOR SALINAS IMMEDIATELY UPON LEARNING OF INCIDENT. ARRIVED AT 12:40. WILL REPORT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AS THEY OCCUR. CONOFF ATTEMPTING TO BOARD NEPTUNE TO SAFEGUARD EQUIPMENT AND POSSESSIONS OF CREW.

DEWITT

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: SHIP DETENTION, FISHING BOATS, ARRESTS, NEPTUNE
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Draft Date: 06 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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